CANADIAN
MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

$5.00 a Year | RAY LEWIS, Editor and Publisher | 10 Cents Per Copy

Vol. 31, No. 19 | TORONTO 2, CANADA | August 26th, 1939

Anna Neagle Comes To Town

ANNA NEAGLE, British film star, arrived at the Union Station, Toronto, with producer Herbert Wilcox, and heard the bagpipes pipe out a welcome.

The Toronto Black Watch Association, of which Anna Neagle is a Life Member, being one of three women to hold that honour, had a large deputation to greet Britain's leading film actress.

At the station to meet the star were the Executives of the British Overseas Branch of the Board of Trade, Mr. George Brigden, President of the Canadian National Exhibition, executives of the Famous-Players, of the RKO Radio Pictures, of the City Hall, cameramen, press photographers, feature article reporters, etc.

The atmosphere was charged with friendliness and the spontaneous warmth of the welcome given to Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox removed any semblance of formality and must have made star and producer feel they were "perfectly at home".

Col. John Cooper presented a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the British Overseas Branch of the Board of Trade. Ray Lewis presented a bouquet of roses on behalf of the Toronto Black Watch. Other bouquets came from various organizations and friends. It was indeed a case of Toronto "saying it with flowers".

The British Overseas Branch "went to town" as we say in motion picture vernacular, on this occasion. Invitations were sent to over ten thousand to attend the Official Opening of the Governments Building of the Canadian National Exhibition, this being exhibition time in Toronto, which means the opening of the greatest annual national exhibition in the world, the C.N.E., which has passed its 60th year of consecutive operation.

The Canadian National Exhibition is fortunate this year to have as its guests of honour, Sir Gerald Campbell, K.C.M.G., High Commissioner for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Canada, and Anna Neagle, star of "Nurse Edith Cavell".

Through the co-operation of the Chairman of the British Overseas Branch of the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto, the representatives of the Governments of Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and India, together with executive co-operation from Famous Players Canadian Corporation and RKO Radio Pictures, Anna Neagle appeared in person to introduce the Canadian Premiere Showing of "Nurse Edith Cavell". The premiere followed immediately after the official opening of the Government Buildings. Music by H.M. Royal Marines was a feature of the program. The film presentation was at the Band Shell and the screen was visible to 10,000.

The reception afforded "Nurse Edith Cavell" at its preview outdoor showing was a huge success. There must have been close to fifteen thousand people who followed the drama of the picture with intense interest and applauded its finale with vigorous approval. For any picture to pass through the acid test of such a showing can only prove one thing that "Nurse Edith Cavell" is Big Drama and THE PICTURE on which the Industry can take a bow in its introduction of Golden Jubilee Year.

"Nurse Edith Cavell" is the first of the Herbert Wilcox pictures to be made under the contract between the British producer and RKO Radio Pictures Corporation, whereby Mr. Wilcox will produce for RKO Radio, pictures to be made at Hollywood and in England.

The world premiere showing of the picture in Hollywood, won for the film such words of praise that accustomed as RKO Radio is to glowing tributes, the executive and publicity departments were compelled to publicly state that no picture ever in their memory received such praise as "Nurse Edith Cavell" from the critics of the daily press.

And so The Digest also, "goes to town" on the story.

—Editor.

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
250 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

Showman's Tie-up On Star's Personal Appearance Boosts B.O.

Toronto, Ont.—When J. L. Smith, newly appointed manager of the Avenue Theatre, learned that Anna Neagle and Herbert Wilcox, star and producer of the pictures, "Victoria The Great", "Sixty Glorious Years" and "Nurse Edith Cavell", were coming to Toronto for the Canadian Premiere of "Nurse Edith Cavell" at the Canadian National Exhibition, he immediately had "Victoria The Great" booked into his theatre — and began figuring how to capitalize on the star's P.A. here.

The star's itinerary was set for press interviews in the morning, a luncheon in her honor at the Granite Club, dinner at the Royal York Hotel, to be followed by the Official Opening Ceremony at the C.N.E. and the Canadian Premiere of "Nurse Edith Cavell".

Visits Avenue Theatre

The Avenue Theatre is situated just a few minutes' drive from the Granite Club, and Miss Neagle kindly consented to stop off for a few moments at The Avenue. These arrangements being completed by noon, and the Anna Neagle visit set for 2 p.m., it was some wild dash to change the displays on the theatre front, change marquee billing, put up a special banner, and contact the newspapers, who all sent representatives and photographed Miss Neagle and Mr. Wilcox at the theatre.

Drawing of "Queen Victoria" Creates Special Interest

In addition to this, "Jay L." secured the loan of a Joshua Smith, R.B.A., charcoal drawing of Miss Neagle as "Queen Victoria", which Miss Neagle had posed for during her previous visit to Toronto for the opening of "Victoria The Great". Never having seen the portrait in its completed stage, it proved of particular interest to the star, who posed with the drawing, for special photographs.

"Concrete" Evidence At Pylon Theatre, Toronto

From the Avenue Theatre, Miss Neagle and Mr. Wilcox, accompanied by Leo Devaney, Canadian Manager for RKO Radio, and Mr. Alliman of the New York office, were driven to the Pylon Theatre (the Ray-Lewis-Ted Sterling house) now under construction, where the star put her footprints in a specially prepared cement square, after the fashion of the Sid Graumann Hollywood Chinese Theatre, signing her name and the date — "concrete" evidence of this, her second visit to Canada, and the Premiere of "Nurse Edith Cavell".

BAD FOR BOX-OFFICE

Regina, Sask.—Managers breathed a sigh of relief when the early closing by-law which had been effective for two months came to an end here on Aug. 19. The by-law made it compulsory for all retail stores to close at 6 o'clock on Saturday nights.

At first it was assumed that the theatres would benefit by having the released store staffs to draw upon. But it was found that the clerks for the most part were leaving the city for week-end vacations, and that downtown Saturday night crowds were much smaller with the stores closed. Consequently theatres suffered.

AVALON NEW POLICY

Ottawa, Ont. — Commencing Monday of this week, the Avalon Theatre, Ottawa, discontinued the policy of running from 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. Instead, a daily matinee at 2 p.m. and an evening performance from 7 p.m. to 11.30 will be the new time table.

Chris Holmes, Manager of this Famous Players theatre, found that his patrons would prefer this new arrangement since the ladies could attend from 2 to 5 p.m. without inconvenience, and any youngsters who came for the show, would not stay on indefinitely.

COUNCIL HAS NO JURISDICTION OVER THEATRE EMPLOYEES

Leamington, Ont. — The Town Council here refused to interfere with the hiring of a Hamilton man by the management of the Vogue Theatre when Walter E. Bennett of Windsor, representing Local 580 of the Motion Picture Operators' Union, laid a request before the council, to bring pressure to bear on the Vogue Theatre to hire a local man, Harry Havens.

Although the Council expressed itself as anxious to see local help employed, members were unanimous in the opinion that the theatre management had a right to engage their help without interference from the Council.

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BOX 51 — DIGEST

Stop! Look! Listen!

Some may read newspapers to get the latest on the political crisis, but we'll get a nation's thoughts by keeping an eye on a picture like Warners' **"Confessions of a Nazi Spy".** This picture is having a record-breaking run at the **Strand, London,** something like 11 weeks now, where it certainly is 'timely'. Interesting also, is the fact that the **Union of South Africa Censor Board** has banned **"Nazi Spy"** showing, with no reason given for this action . . . **George J. Schaefer,** RKO Radio President, has announced the following promotions in the personnel at the studios; **Joseph Nolan,** Assistant Secretary of the company, has been named **Assistant to the President. Howard S. Benedict,** Studio Publicity Director, has been transferred to the production department, as producer with the **Lee Marcus unit. Perry Lieber** succeeds Benedict as **Studio Publicity Head,** under the direction of **S. Barret McCormick.** Bert Gilroy will produce feature exclusively . . . **John Grierson** has been flying across Canada — last we heard of him he was in **Winnipeg . . . Allied States Association** expelled the **New York Allied Theatre Owners** for the following reason: 1—Failure of the N.Y. organization to discharge its obligation to support the national association. 2—**Acting contrary** to the policies of **Allied States** Assn. 3—Failure **to curb attacks** upon National Allied and its policies, by the **president and counsel** of the N.Y. organization. This action was not a surprise, since the **N.Y. Allied refused to reject** the trade practice code, in line with the National organization's rejection . . . At the **Palace,** Montreal, **"Daughters Courageous"** did $6,000, despite sweltering heat . . . **Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Wizard of Oz",** with Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland **Personal Appearance** at the Capitol, New York, did **$65,000** — a terrific intake for this theatre, particularly at this time of the year . . . **RKO Radio** suspended **Garson Kanin,** for his refusal to direct "Ann of Windy Poplars", picture is a B — but Kanin claims he just doesn't like the story . . . **The Canadian National Exhibition,** August 25 to September 9, will see top bands in Toronto. **Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, Glen Gray, Guy Lombardo** and **Tommy Dorsey** are booked in to supply the music at the **C.N.E. Dance Hall.**

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RAY PRESENTS

AS we go to press the front pages of all newspapers are heading "the imminent peril of war". People are hovering around their radios instead of going to the show. We are all adults, that is those of us who are grown up, and whether as showmen or humans we have to face the music even if it is martial and a march of the fife and drum.

Internal troubles within the Industry which have been precipitated through Labour Union Fueds, or which have for their driving force the stabilization of motion pictures through a Code of Fair Trade Practices, appear to have suddenly collapsed in magnitude by comparison with War News.

The old slogan of "carry on" should be adopted right now regardless of how Dictators play their politics. We are facing our best picture season and it rests with us whether we are going to be the "escape" for the people, or whether we are going to be merely humans and not show people, destroying our national build-up for business at a time when we should be preparing to capitalize on a "return of good picture attendance".

SO let us forget about the War News. We cannot be worse off now than we have been, living in this state of uncertainty for many years and wondering each day what Hitler will do next. Wondering when business was going to take hold of itself in a general way, or whether Prosperity had freed itself from the bog of business depression.

The Trade Practice Code which came to life as a result of Government advice in the U.S. to the Film Industry to "put its house in order" has been ruled out. Mr. Thurman W. Arnold, assistant to the Attorney General of the U.S., has by letter informed Motion Pictures that its Code is illegal and its adoption "can only lead to continued and perhaps additional prosecutions".

The Allied leaders rejected the Code when it came before their Board, during a convention of its members some months ago. The Distributors stated that they would follow the trade practice policy as incorporated in the Code ignoring the fact of its rejection by Allied.

There is no doubt but that the action of the Allied leadership in respect to the Code has influenced the attitude of the U.S. Department of Justice toward the Code, just as it influenced the Government law-suits which were the forerunners of the Trade Practice Code.

TRYING to "get-together" must have cost exhibitors and distributors a lot of money and time, the latter which is convertible into dollars. There will have to be some pretty clear thinking on the part of exhibitors and distributors without delay "or else" you know what the Government's "or else" was intended to mean.

I have not been an exhibitor long enough to ask all the questions and know all the answers. It took me many years as an editor and publisher of a motion picture paper to learn enough about our Industry to talk about it. But as an Exhibitor, what one may call a Little Exhibitor among a group here in Canada also just "Little Fellows", regardless of the fact that some of them feel like Big Guys, I have learned this; that some of the names exhibitors call distributors would fit some of these exhibitors who are calling "the names", and some of these are in the very group who are organizing "a national convention" at Toronto.

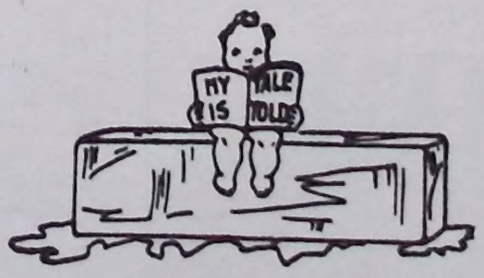
AS an example of these exhibitors' friendliness to each other, take the case of myself as a Little Exhibitor. From the first announcement made of the building of my theatre, The Pylon, certain exhibitors, who advertise that they are Independent and are alleged to be organized to do each other good, have been the inspiration in their own paper of articles published to prevent The Pylon from getting pictures. There has been, without any reason for such publication and before The Pylon even approached a distributor for product, certain published statements in The Independent about "preferential treatment", "preferred runs", etc.

This first attempt to create trouble for The Pylon has been followed by other attacks of a similar nature and rumours connecting The Pylon Theatre owners with other theatres.

Mr. T. M. Sterling and myself are the owners of The Pylon Theatre now being constructed and which will open the first week in October. We have no other partners. We have taken over the lease of the Avenue Theatre, Eglinton Avenue, Toronto, from its former leaseholders. We have no other partners in this leasehold. These two theatres constitute our only theatre interests.

Let the exhibitors and their stooge, the editor of The Independent, just look after their own bookings. I speak English and can book the pictures which The Pylon and Avenue Theatres require without any help from any Co-operative Group, nor certain exhibitors, out to do each other good.

The tactics of the exhibitors to whom I refer, those who are responsible for the attacks on the Pylon Theatre, is sufficient proof to other Independent exhibitors to do their own bookings, mind their own business, because the crowd I refer to is out to do themselves all the good they can for themselves alone, and for other exhibitors they are indeed out "to do them good".



All British Theatres' Exterior Lighting Darkened By Government Order

The Canadian Moving Picture Digest
Entered as Second Class Matter
RAY LEWIS - - - Editor and Publisher
Published by
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY, LIMITED
259 Spadina Avenue - Toronto
Telephone: WAverley 4929
Cable: Raydigest
Established 1915. Publication weekly.
Subscription: $5.00 yearly

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PRIVATE SHOWING FOR N.B. UNIVERSITY FACULTY

Fredericton, N.B.—A private presentation of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picturization of James Hilton's story, "Goodbye Mr. Chips" was given at the Capitol Theatre, Fredericton, recently, to which special invitations were sent to Chancellor D. C. Jones and Mrs. Jones and the professors at the University of New Brunswick. This is the university which conferred an Honorary Degree upon Louis B. Mayer.

Mr. W. W. O. Fenety, Manager of the Capitol Theatre, reported that many favorable comments had been received upon the picture. Mr. A. E. Smith, Manager of Regal Films Exchange, Saint John, made the arrangements for the special showing of the film.

VISITS SAN FRANCISCO FAIR

Loma Phaneuf, secretary of the Roxy, Regina, returned recently from three big weeks divided between the San Francisco World's Fair and Los Angeles.

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Shirley Ross Featured Star Toronto Benefit Broadcast

Toronto, Ont. — Shirley Ross, Paramount player, arrived here Tuesday to sing on the Star Fresh Air Fund Broadcast, Wednesday evening, fom the stage of the Eaton Auditorium.

Greeted at Union Station by Denton Massey, M.P., and Master of Ceremonies of the Star Broadcast, Miss Ross was accompanied by her sister, Janis, and was presented with a huge bouquet of spring flowers. After breakfast at the Royal York Hotel, and photograph 'takes' in her suite at this hotel, which is, incidentally, the largest in the British Empire, Miss Ross went on for a drive through the city, later was the guest at tea at the Oakville Estate of Jack Hammell (Canadian Mining magnate).

Reception at City Hall

Wednesday, Miss Ross, together with Jessica Dragonette, was accorded a civic reception by Mayor Ralph Day and members of the council in the Council Chamber at the City Hall. This ceremony was broadcast on time generously provided by CBL and CKCL.

Eglinton Books Star's Picture

The Eglinton took advantage of the publicity garnered by Shirley Ross's personal appearance here, with "Some Like It Hot", with Bob Hope and Shirley Ross starred, booked in for the second half of a double bill with "Calling Dr. Kildare".

Donations From Deanna Durbin, Bette Davis and Hedy Lamarr

Among the articles which were auctioned at Eaton's Auditorium; was an evening gown donated by Deanna Durbin, and the costume jewelry worn by Bette Davis in "Juarez", a matched set consisting of necklace, bracelet, clip ear-rings and ring, made of old gold with onyx trim and set with stimulated rubies and pearls. Miss Davis also donated, through courtesy of Warner Bros., a replica of an authentic mirror of the Elisabethan period, used in "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex". Hedy Lamarr of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, donated the Sunday night gown with pill-box hat to match, which she wore in the picture, "Lady of the Tropics". Andrea Leeds (Samuel Goldwyn, Inc.), sent a shirtmaker dress, which she wore in the film "They Shall Have Music". From Alice Faye came a large onyx and rhinestone clip with flower trimming, which was worn by her in "Hollywood Cavalcade", also from Irene Hervey of Universal, a bracelet of rhinestone and French enamel.

PARAMOUNT ROYAL VISIT HOUR FEATURE AT C.N.E.

Toronto, Ont.—At Foster's Outdoor Theatre, at the Canadian National Exhibition here, which opened August 24th, The Globe and Mail Newspaper presents a moving picture of the Royal Tour of Canada and the United States, a one hour feature with sound, product of Paramount Film Service Limited.

The open-air theatre is located just south of the Press Building. Admission is free, and screenings take place daily from 9 to 10 P.M.

GRIESDORF IN B.C.

Vancouver, B.C. — Dave Griesdorf, manager of the United Artists office at Winnipeg, is a visitor at the local office of U.A. He is combining business with pleasure, by enjoying the exceptional weather that has prevailed in Vancouver for the past week. However, while it is not as hot as other parts of the Dominion, it's hot for Vancouver, and in consequence theatre business generally has hit a decided slump.

THE SHERIFF "TAKES OVER"

Richibucto, N.B.—The Kent Theatre, which changed hands recently, was taken over from Harry Adkins of Richibucto, and transferred to Sheriff E. A. Bourgeais, also of Richibucto.

The theatre will be redecorated, improved and made thoroughly up-to-date. E. A. Bourgeais is Sheriff of Kent County and shows a keen enthusiasm for the motion picture business. The Kent seats 250.

Disney's 'Mickey Mouse' Sketch Raises Cash

Two drawings sent from Walt Disney Studios, Hollywood, a Mickey Mouse black and white sketch, and a colored painting with Ferdinand the Bull as the central characters, and the green suede jacket, worn by Errol Flynn in "Robin Hood", also went on the auction block, to pay for some poor child's holiday in the country.

"Goodbye Mr. Chips" In 6th Week, Loew's, Montreal. Present Indications Point To An 8 Week Run

Actors' and Stagehands' Unions Continue Their Fight

N.Y.—What looked like an amicable settlement last week between the actors' and stagehands' unions, has turned out to be but a lull before a storm. The Association of Actors and Artistes of America gained what was thought to be a decisive victory over I.A.T.S.E., but the former organization rejected the terms offered by the A.F. of L. and is now preparing for a vote by mail, of its 30,000 members, on the question of withdrawing from the A.F. of L.

However, executives of A.F. of L. are trying desperately to bring about a speedy settlement of the dispute between the AAAA and the AFA-IATSE. Reports are that A.F. of L. is trying to persuade George E. Browne, President of I.A.T.S.E., to surender the A.F.A. charter, but it is unlikely Browne will do this, since he stated at Atlantic City before the Executive Council, that A.F.A. without the I.A.T.S.E. tie-up would be "ripe" for encroachment by the CIO.

Sophie Tucker, President of A.F.A., who is now under suspension from the Screen Actors Guild and American Federation of Radio Artists and Actors Equity, will appear before Equity for trial, because of her alleged treasonable actions in accepting an I.A.T.S.E. charter for A.F.A. If Miss Tucker is expelled it will mean that the 70 Equity members who are to reopen in "Leave It To Me" will have to refuse to work with her in the show, and if the producer, Vinton Freedley, attemps to put on the show without Sophie Tucker, the Stagehands Union, an I.A.T.S.E. affiliate, would refuse to permit its members to work in the show.

Reports are that Screen Actors Guild has pledged itself to take up the strike if Equity members are thrown out of work by I.A.T.S.E. stagehands. Recently, Joseph M. Schenck, President of M.P. Producers, declared that an S.A.G. strike could not take place since contracts with studios prevent a strike. However, Kenneth Thomson, Executive Secretary of S.A.G., made this statement: "A strike by any union which has a contract is illegal, but if Mr. Schenck thinks that the S.A.G. will not strike when its existence is threatened, well - - - "

Meanwhile, it is learned from reliable sources that the CIO is set to offer the performer's union an unlimited financial and organizational backing; $500,000 is the amount reputed to be the finance offered, and the co-operation of all craft and industrial unions in all branches of show business.

CASINO, HALIFAX, PRESENTS ORIGINAL TRAVELOGUE

Halifax, N.S.—A movie review of a tour taken by a globe trotting couple was a feature of the programme at the Casino Theatre, Halifax, N.S., when Mrs. Aloha Baker presented a coloured travelogue of a motor trip in India, New Zealand and Ceylon.

Mrs. Baker gave a running commentary upon the interesting scenes, among which were included views of the customs of the ancient Maoris, curios rites of the people of India, native life in Ceylon and aerial shots of the Khyber Pass. Mrs. Baker, a native of Winnipeg, is, with her husband, touring the Maritime Provinces and plans to visit Quebec before returning to the United States. The automobile, in which they made this tour was displayed at a local dealers in Halifax, N.S.

LITTLE THEATRE OPENS WITH 175 SEATS

Crapaud, P.E.I. — Bruce H. Yeo, a theatre man of many years experience, has opened a theatre at Crapaud, Prince Edward Island. Crapaud is a small village. The theatre seats 175 and will be open only one day every second week. Mr. Yeo also operates theatres at Montague and Souris, P.E.I.

CAR CRASHES INTO THEATRE NO PANIC — NONE INJURED

Regina, Sask. — Only recently rebuilt, the front of the Capitol theatre, Regina, again underwent repairs when a car driven by a local woman crashed into it last week. The damage to doors and framework was estimated by Bill Novak, manager, to be around $500.

The crash occurred in the late afternoon following an inter-section collision. After striking one car, the woman driver apparently became panicky and stepped on the accelerator instead of the brake. The car mounted the sidewalk, scattered pedestrians, and came to rest part way inside the lobby. Patrons in the foyer were terrified but any suggestion of panic was averted by the floor staff who handled the situation admirably. Other than scratches and bruises to the driver, none were injured.

Later in the week Bill Novak again became the victim of car trouble when he received a summons for over-parking.

$50,000 THEATRE FOR FORT ERIE

Fort Erie, Ont.—Plans have been prepared and tenders will be called soon for construction of a theatre to cost about $50,000, to be built by Mrs. Lillian Ziff Marks of London, England, now visiting Fort Erie.

The theatre building to be erected on Niagara Street, opposite the ferry landing, will include air-conditioned stores and offices, and will seat 750. Kaplan and Sprachman are the architects.

Stop! Look! Listen!

Betty Field in Hollywood to take the leading feminine role in **Hal Roach's** forthcoming production of **John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men"**, to be released through **United Artists** . . . **Sydney Toler** has been given a new long term contract to play the role of **Charlie Chan**, for **20th Century-Fox** . . . **RKO Radio** has assigned **Dorothy Lovett**, currently before the cameras in **"The Hunchback of Notre Dame"** to play the feminine lead opposite **Jean Herscholt** in **"Meet Dr. Christian"** the screen continuation of the **Dr. Christian** radio plays in which he has appeared for the last two years . . . **"Test No. 606"** is the title chosen by **Warner Bros.** for the production of the story of **Dr. Paul Ehrlich**, in which **Edward G. Robinson** will star . . . **Fay Bainter** has been given the leading feminine role opposite **Edward G. Robinson** in this picture . . . **Jean Arthur** has been cast in the feminine lead in **Columbia's "Arizona"** . . . **Hunt Stromberg's** forthcoming **M-G-M** production of **"Quo Vadis"** will star **Robert Taylor** . . . **Ruth Gordon**, distinguished Broadway actress, has left for Hollywood where she will play the role of **Mrs. Lincoln** opposite **Raymond Massey** in **RKO'S "Abe Lincoln in Illinois"** . . . **Linda Darnell**, who gained stardom in her first motion picture, **"Elsa Maxwell's Hotel for Women"**, will co-star with **Tyrone Power** in **20th Century-Fox's "Daytime Wife"**. **Nancy Kelly**, who was announced for the part, will have the important role of **"Light"** in **Maeterlinck's "The Blue Bird"**, starring **Shirley Temple** . . . **Dame May Whitty** has been engaged by Samuel Goldwyn for an important role in **"Raffles"** . . . **Erle C. Kenton** has been signed to direct **Bobby Breen's** new picture, **"Escape to Paradise"**. **Kenton** was chosen as a result of his work on **"Everything's On Ice"** . . . Because of the illness of **Dolly Haas, Jane Bryan** has been shifted into the top feminine role opposite **Paul Muni** in **Warner Bros.' "We Are Not Alone"** . . . Next in the **Columbia Blondie Series** will be entitled, **"Blondie Brings Up the Baby"**, with same cast as other **"Blondie"** pictures . . . **Reginald Denny** has been given an important role in the **David O. Selznick** production, **"Rebecca"** . . . **Warner Bros.** has announced that they will co-star **George Raft** and **Ann Sheridan** in a story of the Central American banana industry, **"Torrid Zone"** . . . **Samuel Goldwyn** has purchased the rights to an original U.S. Navy story, **"The Sweetheart of Turret One"**.

Big Box-Office Assured for "Stanley and Livingstone" Spencer Tracy - Cedric Hardwicke In Powerful Roles

★ ★ ★ +

"STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE"

20th CENTURY-FOX

WITH outstanding performances by Spencer Tracy and Sir Cedric Hardwicke in the title roles, "Stanley and Livingstone" promises to be one of the biggest grossers from 20th Century-Fox for the current year. To say that it is an adventure story is a gross understatement, for the film combines so many themes that it is difficult to classify it in one word. A newspaper theme is there, also a religious theme, both these in addition to a straight African adventure yarn that would suffice in the majority of films.

Story is partly fictional, partly factual, a love story having been injected for the benefit of the romanticists. Film opens with Henry M. Stanley, ace reporter on the New York Herald, defying the U.S. Army, in order to file an exclusive interview with a warring Indian chief. Back in New York, with Jeff Slocum, an Indian scout who had helped him get his story, Stanley is sold the idea of heading a safari to find Dr. Livingstone, lost in the African jungle, and reported dead. James Gordon Bennett, Stanley's boss, persuades Stanley that the discovery of Livingstone would be the news story of the century, and Stanley accepts the assignment. Arriving in Africa with Jeff Slocum, he secures a safari, and sets out on his search. After more than a year's journey into the interior of the Dark Continent, and wracked with malaria, Stanley enters the village where Dr. Livingstone is residing, not lost, but instead tending the physical and spiritual needs of the natives. Comes the famous line, "Dr. Livingstone, I presume".

Livingstone, a combination of doctor, missionary, explorer and geographist, soon wins Stanley over to his way of thinking, and when the doctor appeals to the reporter to tell the world the truth about his work, and to ask for aid to carry on the work, Stanley accepts this second assignment, returning to England. There he appears before the British Geographers Society, where he presents his story of the finding of Dr. Livingstone, and of the doctor's great explorations which will change the map of Africa. He is scoffed at by the members of the Society, especially by Lord Tyce, English newspaper magnate, who charges the whole story is a hoax. At the last moment, a telegram is received at the Society's meeting, telling of the death of Dr. Livingstone, and containing a message to Stanley to "take up the torch". The picture closes with Stanley returning to Africa, and leading an exploration expedition into the interior, with the natives singing "Onward Christian Solders", as taught by Livingstone.

20th Century-Fox has given this picture more by way of "production", than any picture they have made this year. An expedition under Mrs. Martin Johnson was dispatched to Africa to photograph exteriors and the march of the Stanley safari, a jaunt which is rumored to have cost in the neighborhood of a cool $250,000. That this money, and the other two million dollars that are said to have gone into the production, is money well spent, is proven in the business the picture is doing in its opening engagements, and the grosses it will receive in future play dates.

Henry King, ace director on Darryl F. Zanuck's roster, has never done a better job than he has done here, and both he and his boss must feel well satisfied with a job well done.

As for the acting, both Spencer Tracy as Stanley, and Sir Cedric Hardwicke as Livingstone do magnificent work. Tracy, of course, has more footage, dominating the greater part of the whole picture, but Hardwicke tops the scenes in which he appears. Richard Greene and Nancy Kelly are given second billing below Tracy, and above Hardwicke, but both play very minor roles, which would never have been missed. Henry Travers as Nancy Kelly's father has a good character bit, while Walter Brennan is okay as Jeff Slocum, Tracy's side-kick. Charles Coburn as Lord Tyce, the British newspaper publisher is excellent, and Henry Hull is very good in a brief bit as James Gordon Bennett.

This is an exceptional box-office attraction, and should be handled as such. Don't miss any bets with it, for it should make you a fortune.

Running time—100 minutes.

SHORT SUBJECTS

"ANGEL OF MERCY"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

THIS is another of the John Nesbett Passing Parade shorts, narrated by Carey Wilson. It tells the story of Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross. It shows how when the Civil War broke out, Clara Barton tried to enlist as a nurse, was refused, and enlisted the aid of a group of other nurses, and established a field hospital where she and her associates attended the wounded. In 1869, while visiting Switzerland, Miss Barton was made an honorary member of the International Red Cross, and on her return to America tried to persuade her own country to establish an American Red Cross. Twelve years later her prayers were answered and the American Red Cross was founded.

Sara Haden, the "Aunt Milly" of the "Hardy Family" portrays Clara Barton, and Ann Rutherford has a small part. Worth extra billing.

Running time—10 minutes.

"SCREEN SNAPSHOTS NO. 10"

COLUMBIA

THIS is another interesting issue of the popular Columbia series of which Harriet Parsons is the editor. Subject deals exclusively with the charity ball given on the Basil Rathbones' estate at Bel-Air. The extensive preparations necessary for the function are shown, with many prominent stars participating, including Claire Trevor, Hedy LaMarr, Dolores Del Rio and Rosalind Russell. Then the ball itself, attended by all great and small in Hollywood, with the camera giving you generous peeks at your favorites.

Running time—10 minutes.

"YANKEE DOODLE GOES TO TOWN"

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

THIS is a patriotic short, featuring a sourpuss character, whose constant contention is that the world in general, and America in particular, is going to the dogs. This dour gent is shown as appearing in every phase of American history from 1776 on. Each time the U.S. is facing a crisis, this doom-caller predicts the worst, and each time "Yankee Doodle" (Democracy) comes through with flying colors, as the commentator tells us it will continue to do.

Running time—9 minutes.

Holdover Runs For U.A.'s "Four Feathers" All Across Canada

Resume Of Pictures Reviewed During August

★ ★ ★ +

"THE FOUR FEATHERS"
(Korda-U.A.)

Starring Ralph Richardson, John Clements, C. Aubrey Smith and June Duprez. Directed by Zoltan Korda. In Technicolor.

"A truly magnificent British motion picture . . . impossible to describe the excitement and excellence of presentation of the battle scenes . . . impressive direction".

"GOODBYE MR. CHIPS" — Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Starring Robert Donat, with Greer Garson. Directed by Sam Wood.

"Third major M-G-M feature produced in England—excluding 'Pygmalion'—and is likely to outgross all the others . . . picture has a haunting charm . . . Robert Donat excells even his best previous characterizations".

★ ★ ★

"THE OLD MAID"
(Warner Bros.)

Starring Bette Davis and Miriam Hopkins, with George Brent. Directed by Edmund Goulding.

"A Pulitzer Prize play that will have to rely for the most part on feminine audiences, as it is essentially a woman's picture . . . Miriam Hopkins is brilliant . . . one of Bette Davis' best".

"THE MAN IN THE IRON MASK"—Edward Small-U.A.

Starring Louis Hayward and Joan Bennett. Directed by James Whale.

"Not since the days of Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., have the flashing swords and dashing romance of the Dumas characters been seen to better advantage . . . a big story, produced on a large scale, with a capable cast".

★ ★ +

"THE SAINT IN LONDON"
(RKO Radio.)

Starring George Sanders, with Sally Grey. Directed by John Carstairs.

"70 minutes of exciting motion picture entertainment . . . George Sanders improves considerably on his first portrayal of the adventurous gentleman".

★ ★

"THEY ALL COME OUT"
(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.)

Featuring Tom Neal and Rita Johnson. Directed by Jacques Tourneur.

"Originally planned as a special four-reeler for the 'Crime Does Not Pay' series . . . satisfactory production for second half of a double bill.

"A CHILD IS BORN"—Warner Brothers.

Starring Geraldine Fitzgerald, Jeffrey Lynn and Gale Page. Directed by Lloyd Bacon.

"With almost the entire action taking place in the maternity ward of a hospital, this picture will appeal chiefly to women . . . grim drama is broken up throughout with flashes of comedy of the expectant father variety."

SHORT SUBJECTS

"PROPHET WITHOUT HONOR"
METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

THIS is a fascinating Carey Wilson Miniature, presenting the little known story of Matthew Fontaine Maury, the United States naval officer, who, forced by an accident to retire from active service, devoted the rest of his life to drawing up comprehensive charts of the winds and currents of the oceans and air above them. He is credited with having discovered the Northwest Passage, and having founded the U.S. Weather Bureau. By birth a Southerner, Maury joined the Confederacy when the Civil War broke out, and because he served as a foreign envoy for the South, he failed to receive a pardon when hostilities ceased. Later through the aid of General Robert E. Lee, he was pardoned, and went to teach at V.M.I.

Tom Neal plays Matthew Fontaine Maury.

Running time—11 minutes.

"VOODOO FIRES"
VITAPHONE

A FLOYD GIBBONS True Adventures short, dealing with the mysterious rites of Voodoo black magic, as practised among the natives of the West Indies. This is not as exciting as some ,but contains some interesting material.

Running time—12 minutes.

By MERRYL LEA

JUST when we begin to think that there are no theatremen left who really are Showmen and who expend that extra bit of energy to put their theatre over, we get a letter from Harland Rankin and regain our faith.

Here are a few of the ideas he's cashed in on, by way of making The Plaza, at Tilbury, Ontario, bring in the crowds:

When daughter, Nancy, celebrated her sixth birthday, all the children in Tilbury were invited to a Free Show at The Plaza at 10 a.m. After the show Nancy made her "personal appearance" on the stage, before the enthusiastic crowd of youngsters.

The Annual Beauty Contest, which is held at The Plaza Theatre each year to pick Miss Tilbury. This year all the leading merchants are behind this Contest and the winner will go to Windsor to represent Tilbury at the Firemen's Field Day where Miss Western Ontario is chosen, and $500 is awarded in prizes.

Madame Cezanne, local fur stylist, sponsored a fur fashion show last week at the Plaza, with pretty blonde and brunette models displaying the furs. Despite the heat, this proved very successful.

The Col. Wagle Bugle Pipe Band were guests at the Plaza, and for 30 minutes "did their stuff" outside the theatre. People came out of their houses to see them, and followed them into the show. The old gag of the Pied Piper worked again.

The Plaza is the only Theatre in Tilbury, which is a town of about 2,000 population. In the operation of his theatre Harland Rankin has the long view, he does a little "giving", by way of building up goodwill in the town, and at the same time "sells" his theatre and more than makes up for the "giveaway".

Theatre Equipment
and
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TORONTO, ONT.

EVERYTHING FOR THE THEATRE FROM SHEET TO STREET

Warner Bros. Announces Own Trade Code For 1939-40 Policy - - Contract Includes 20% and 10% Cancellation Privileges, No Recording Charges, and Arbitration

Public Will Vote On Question Of Sunday Movies

St. Stephen, N.B. — Charles Staples of the Queen Theatre, St. Stephen, New Brunswick, in an interview with The Digest, discussed the situation of "Sunday Movies" in Calais, Maine, U.S.A.

The town of Calais has a City Ordinance which prohibits the operation of a moving picture theatre on the Lord's Day. No other town or city in the State of Maine has any laws prohibiting the exhibition of movies on Sunday.

Mr. Staples, as Manager of the State Theatre, Calais, is most anxious to secure an amendment to this statute, so that he may operate his theatre on Sundays, since the theatres in adjoining towns frequently open with a new film on that day, and patrons of the "State" and people from the nearby country drive to these towns, which results in a serious loss of business for the "State" since under normal conditions these people would patronize the Calais theatre.

The matter will come up for decision at the next election. Since the opinions are divided upon the question of Sunday Movies, it will be settled by a public vote in the town. Calais is situated directly across the River St. Croix, from the town of St. Stephen, N.B.

NEW THEATRE—HANTSPORT

Windsor, N.S.—J. H. Bustin, who operates the Imperial Theatre here, will open a moving picture theatre in Hantsport in the near future. The Imperial Theatre is now being renovated and wired for sound, and shows will be held four days each week.

NEW SYSTEM AT CAPITOL

Prince Rupert, B.C.—The Capitol Theatre here (Famous Players), will have a new ventilation system installed, work to be carried out at once. Arrangements for the improvement were made by Manager Dave Borland, during his visit at the F-P head office, Toronto.

CONCILIATION MEET POSTPONED

Halifax, N.S.—The meeting of the Conciliation Board which was planned to take place on August 23rd, has been reported as postponed until September 15th.

GAIETY OPENS SEPTEMBER

Fredericton, N.B. — The Gaiety Theatre, Fredericton, N.B., which was destroyed by fire in May and which Mr. W. W. O. Fenety immediately started re-building, will be completed and opened to the public September 1st.

MASON—BOOKINGS

Saint John, N.B. — Visitors at the Film Centre recently, — R. R. Kertson of the Opera House, Grand Falls, N.B., and Lloyd Mason, son of A. J. Mason of the Capitol Theatre, Springhill, N.S., looking after booking for that theatre, and was accompanied by Eddie Cameron, operator.

"DID YOU KNOW THAT"

Moncton, N. B.—This city possesses what is known to be the smallest park in the World and this "wonder" was photographed by Harold Reid of Moncton and will be shown in an Associated Screen News short entitled "Did You Know That?" The park is named "Stanley Park" and is located near the corner of Main and Church Streets. It is about three feet square and is ornamented by arches and flowers.

FILM NATAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Dartmouth, N.S.—"Natal Day" at Dartmouth, N.S., is celebrated annually and this year a movie film showing highlights of the anniversary was featured at the Mayfair Theatre, one of the Franklin-Herschoren Chain of theatres.

Ivan Haley, manager of the Mayfair Theatre and Cecil Landry, radio man and photographer, called this feature "Eastern Canada's Greatest Show" and it was full of interest to all inhabitants of Dartmouth, which is situated just opposite Halifax, N.S.

The celebration marked the 189th anniversary of the founding of the town and movies were taken of the arrival of the ferry, the races, the regatta, and the fireworks which completed the day's festivities.

Trans-Canada Showings

TORONTO

IMPERIAL
"Stanley and Livingstone" (20th Century-Fox), with Spencer Tracy and Richard Greene.

LOEW'S
3rd week. "Goodbye Mr. Chips" (M-G-M), with Robert Donat and Greer Garson.

UPTOWN
"Bachelor Mother" (RKO Radio), starring Ginger Rogers and David Niven.

AVENUE
"King of the Turf" (U.A.), with Adolphe Menjou and Dolores Costello, and "The Mad Miss Manton" (RKO Radio), with Barbara Stanwyck and Henry Fonda.

MONTREAL

LOEW'S
5th week. "Goodbye Mr. Chips" (M-G-M), with Robert Donat and Greer Garson.

CAPITOL
"Hotel for Women" (20th Century-Fox), with Elsa Maxwell, Ann Sothern and Linda Darnell, and "Mr. Moto Takes A Vacation" (20th Century-Fox), with Peter Lorre.

PALACE
"Daughters Courageous" (Warners), with John Garfield, Priscilla Lane, Rosemary Lane, Lola Lane, Gale Page.

PRINCESS
"Hell's Kitchen" (Warners), with "The Dead End Kids", and "Nancy Drew, Trouble Shooter" (Warners), with Bonita Granville.

ORPHEUM
2nd week. "Four Feathers" (Korda-U.A.), with Ralph Richardson, C. Aubrey Smith.

SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL
"Captain Fury" (Hal Roach-U.A.), with Brian Aherne and Victor McLaglen.

EMPIRE
"Angel" (Paramount), with Marlene Dietrich and Herbert Marshall, and "Saleslady" (Monogram), with Anne Nagel.

STRAND
"Blind Alley" (Columbia), with Chester Morris, Ralph Bellamy and Ann Dvorak, and "The Family Next Door" (Universal), with Joy Hodges, Eddie Quillan.

MAYFAIR
"The Story of Alexander Graham Bell" (20th Century-Fox), with Don Ameche, Loretta Young, Henry Fonda, and "The Gaiety Girls" (London Films), with Jack Hulbert.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL
"Second Fiddle" (20th Century-Fox), with Sonja Henie and Tyrone Power.

GARRICK
2nd week. "Four Feathers" (Korda-U.A.), with Ralph Richardson.

METROPOLITAN
"Hotel For Women" (20th Century-Fox), with Elsa Maxwell and Linda Darnell, also "Five Came Back" (RKO Radio), with Chester Morris, Lucille Ball.

CALGARY

CAPITOL
"Four Feathers" (Korda-U.A.), with Ralph Richardson.

PALACE
"Clouds Over Europe" (Columbia), with Laurence Olivier, Ralph Richardson and Valerie Hobson.

PLAZA
"The Cowboy and the Lady" (Goldwyn-U.A.), with Gary Cooper and Merle Oberon, and "Ambush" (Paramount), with Gladys Swarthout and Lloyd Nolan.

VANCOUVER

BEACON
"Missing Daughters" (Columbia), with Rochelle Hudson and Richard Arlen, and "First Offenders" (Columbia), with Walter Abel and Beverly Roberts. Stage show.

CAPITOL
"Andy Hardy Gets Spring Fever" (M-G-M), with Mickey Rooney, Lewis Stone and Cecilia Parker.

ORPHEUM
"Stanley and Livingstone" (20th Century-Fox), with Spencer Tracy, Nancy Kelly and Richard Greene.

DOMINION
"Only Angels Have Wings" (Columbia), with Cary Grant and Jean Arthur, and "The Man Who Dared" (First National) with Chas. Grapewin and Jane Bryan.

STRAND
"Hell's Kitchen" (Warners), with "Dead End Kids" and Margaret Lindsay, also "Indianapolis Speedway", (Warners), with Ann Sheridan, Pat O'Brien and John Payne.

PLAZA
"Four Feathers" (Korda-U.A.), with Ralph Richardson, C. Aubrey Smith,